Introduction to Planning Workshop

Planning Fundamentals

South Pacific Division

FUNDAMENTALS

- Steps
- Iteration
- Criteria

- Terminology

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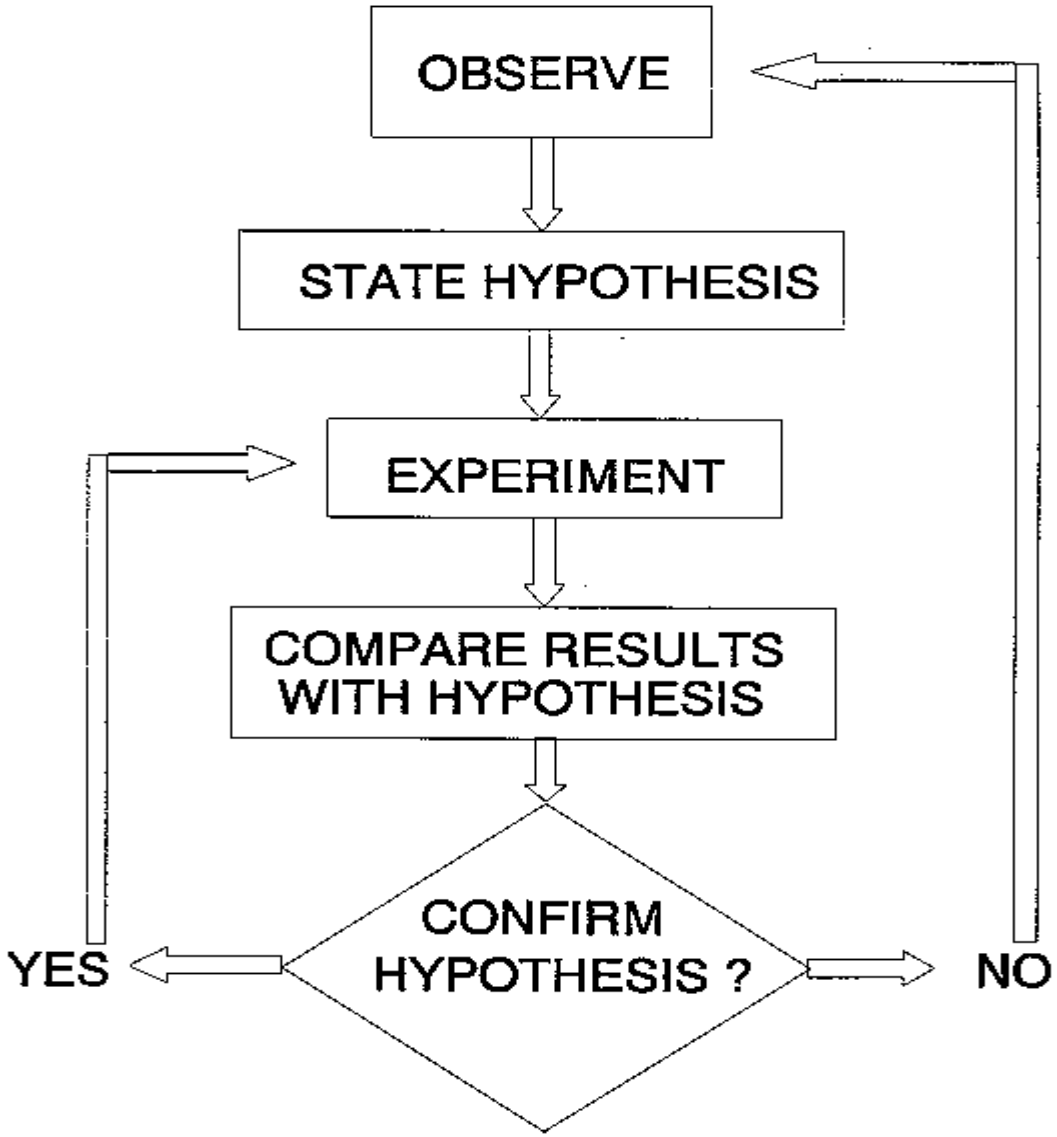
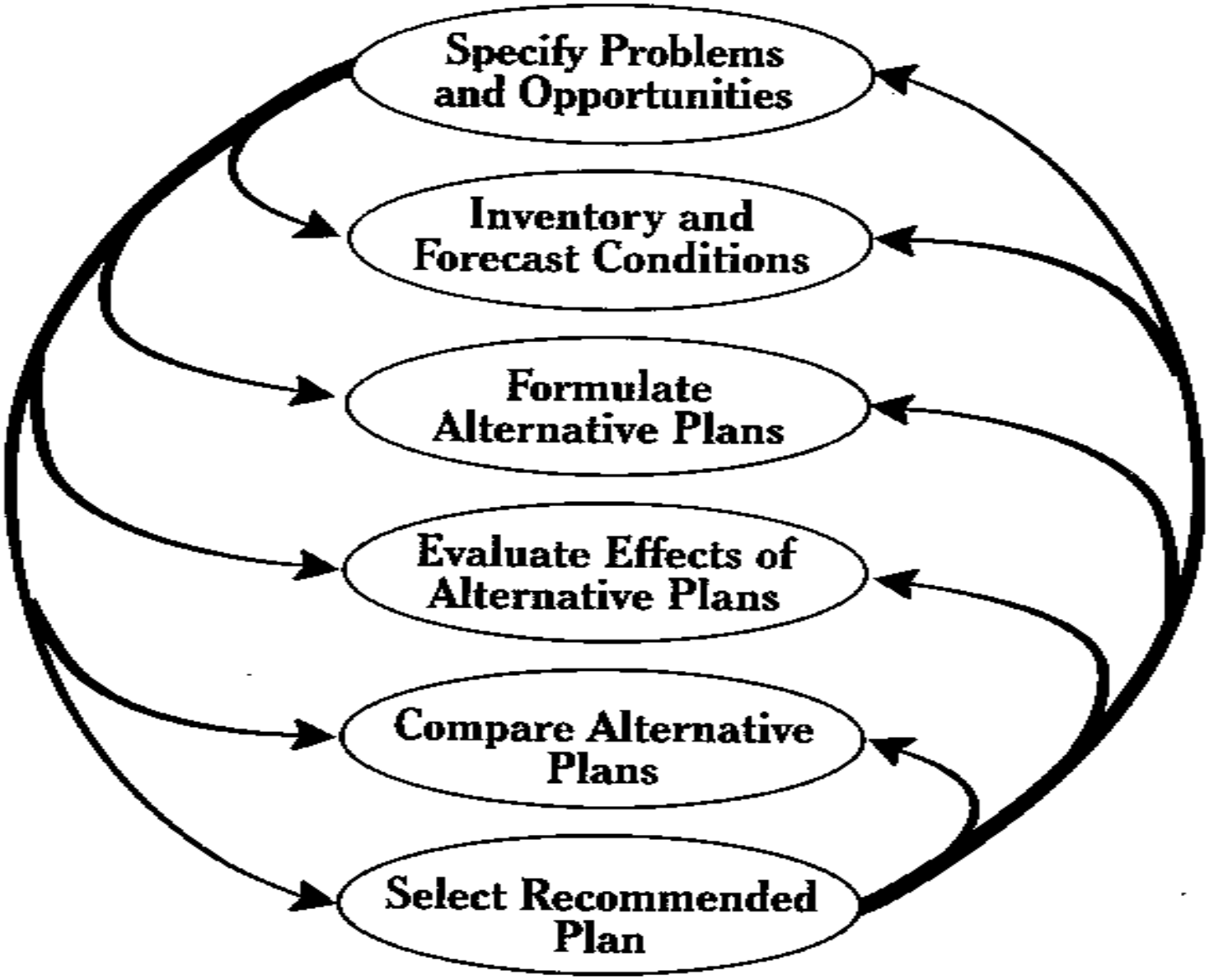
SCIENTIFIC METHOD



A PLANNING MODEL

- What’s the problem?
- How can it be solved?
- What are the pros and cons of solutions?
- What’s the best solution?
- Implement the solution.
- Feedback.

PLANNING PROCESS



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ITERATION

- Repeat.

- What? Steps.
- Why? Different emphasis.
- How many times? Depends.
- When do you stop? When you have a recommendation.

ITERATION

- Plans can be developed quickly and with little information.
- It is often possible to improve on plans.

ITERATION

- First…common sense iteration.

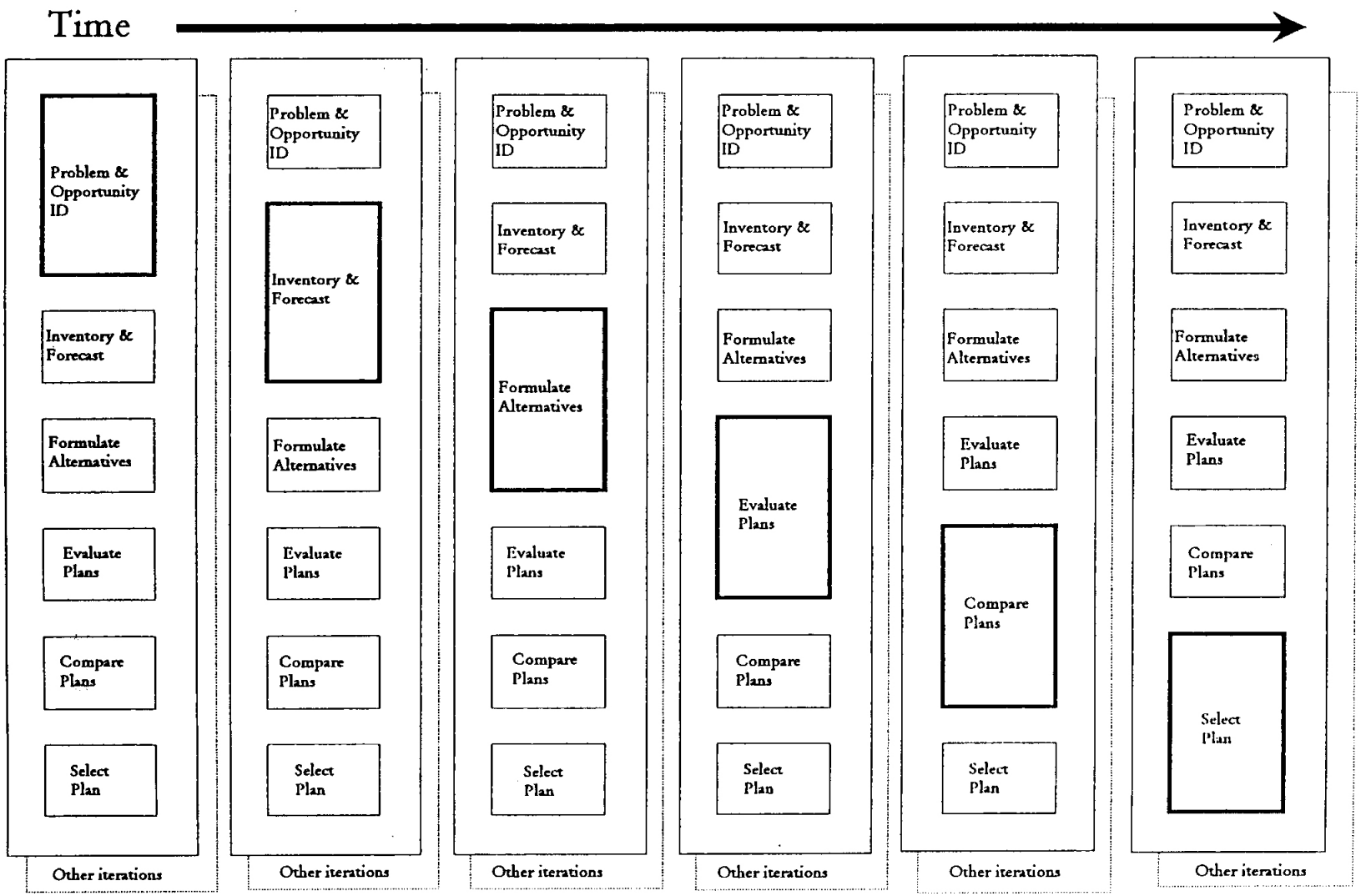
- Institutional Iterations:
  - Corps: Recon → Feasibility → etc.
  - NEPA: EA → EIS → ROD

ITERATION RULES

- Start at any step.
- Conduct and repeat steps, but not necessarily always in order.
- Conduct each step at least once.
- Always end at the last step.

Figure 2: Corps' Planning Process

DRAFT



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CRITERIA

- Bases for making decisions.
- What decisions?
  - Pass/fail, retain/delete, yes/no, toggle switch
  - Priority, rank, order, fader switch
- When?
  - Early - “screening” decisions.
  - Late - “selection” decision.

CRITERIA

- Where do criteria come from?
  - Given - “four criteria”, “scoping”, NED
  - Unique for each study.
- Identify criteria BEFORE you make a decision.
- It can be difficult to compare plans when there is a lack of agreement on the screening criteria.

WHAT DO WE SCREEN USING CRITERIA?

- Stakeholders to be involved.
- Problems and opportunities to be addressed.
- Information to be collected.
- Future without project assumptions to be used.
- Management measures to be evaluated.
- Effects to be considered.
- Plan to be recommended - SELECTION.

A FINAL WORD ON CRITERIA

- Decision makers may disagree on what is most important.
- In the end, you may not get your way… and that's OK.

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PLANNER TALK

- action
- activity
- alternative
- alternative plan
- approach
- component
- concept
- element
- feature
- improvement
- increment
- input
- management action
- management measure
- management practice
- measure
- option
- plan
- practice
- program
- project
- proposal
- scenario
- scheme
- solution
- strategy
- system
- technology

INTRODUCTION AND FUNDAMENTALS WHAT'S THE POINT?

- Planning is basic to human nature.
- There is a planning process - a way to solve problems.
- The planning process occurs in steps, the steps are repeated (iteration).
- Criteria guide decisions.
- Repeating the process will increase comfort levels.
- Trust the process. It works.

PLANNING PROCESS